

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/987,832	WAKAO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lin Ye	2615	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the application filed on 16 November 2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-36.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 16 November 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>4/30/02, 2/15/02</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-36 allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1-12, the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest an image verification system comprising an image generation device and a first image verification device wherein said image generation device includes image data generation means for generating image first verification data generation means for generating first verification data for said image data using first information, and wherein said first image verification device includes: verification means for image data is altered or not verifying whether said by using said image data, said first verification data, and said first information; and second verification data generation means for, if said image data is not altered generating second verification data for said image data by using said image data and second information as recited in the independent claim 1.

Regarding claims 13-26, the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest an image verification system comprising an image generation device; a first device; and a second device wherein said second device includes: verification means for verifying whether said image data is altered or not by using said image data, said first verification data, and said first information; and second verification data generation means for, if said image data is not altered, generating second verification data for said image data by using said image data and second information as recited in the independent claim 13.

Regarding claims 27-36, the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest verification means for verifying whether image data is altered or not by using said image data, first verification

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data for said image data, and ID information for identifying an image generated said image data; and generation means for, if said image data is not altered, generating second verification data for said image data by using said image data and second information.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
 - a. Safai U.S. 6,642,956 discloses a method for authentication stamping of a digital image in Figures 10A-B.
 - b. Wickes U.S. 6,826,315 discloses an invention relates to digital photography and more particularly to verification of image authenticity.
 - c. Steinberg U.S. 6,587,949 discloses digital camera system can perform one or more security functions.
 - d. Ahern U.S. 6,769,061 discloses a digital watermark associated with a document is encoded.
 - e. Glass et al. U.S. 6,332,193 discloses a method for collecting a securely transmitting biometric data over a network.

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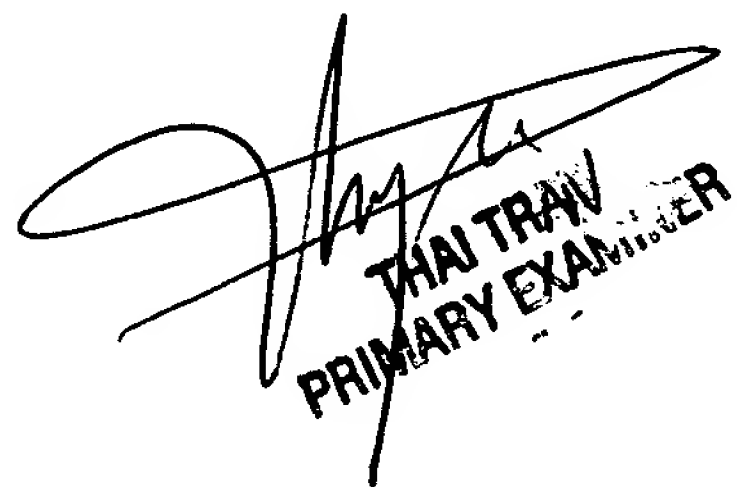
f. Schumacher et al. U.S. 6,269,446 discloses authentication of image from digital cameras with GPS derived time and location data.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lin Ye whose telephone number is (703) 305-3250. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's acting supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on (703) 305-4725. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lin Ye
February 8, 2005



THAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER